LOCAL VOICES
GLOBAL VISIONS

2

INSPIRING STORIES FROM YOUTH MOBILIZATION AROUND
THE 2005 WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

ALSO INCLUDES:

THE WORLD SUMMIT YOUTH AWARD

THE YOUTH AND ICT AWARD

A TakingITGlobal Publication

LOCAL VOICES, GLOBAL VISIONS 2

Inspiring stories from youth mobilization around the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society

Attached DVD
(selected copies only)

Local Voices, Global Visions
A documentary on youth involvement in WSIS Phase 1

A TakingITGlobal Film
Directed by Jarra McGrath
and Nick Moraitis

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INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS THE WSIS?

The WSIS is a series of international meetings organized by the United Nations to discuss the impact of emerging technologies on the way we live, work and participate in society. The first Summit was held in Geneva, Switzerland (December 2003) and the second Summit in Tunis, Tunisia (November 2005). The many thousands of participants include world government, business and civic leaders.

Sometimes it seems almost too surreal. Sitting in Nigeria, I'm today able to literally speak with people from every part of the world - at the press of a button – and mostly for free. But back when the UN held it's first World Summit on the Information Society, just two years ago, very few people had even heard of Internet Telephony, or 'Voice over IP'. Now this technology is enabling continents to connect, diaspora communities to re-engage with their nations of birth, and businesses in developing countries to grow without the barrier of poor telecommunications. The advance and popularization of VoIP technology shows you just how fast Internet time really is. And how important it is that governments, business and civil society come to terms with technologies from a policy and development perspective so that everyone can benefit. We just can't stand still.

Which is why the Youth Caucus has marched forward in Phase 2 of the WSIS process with the slogan 'Words to Action'. As the platform for young people involved in the WSIS process, the Caucus has continued to play a key role in the policy debates, such as around how the Internet should be governed.

We've co-organized a global awards program showcasing the leading role of young people in the development of creative e-content (some of the results of which can be found in the second part of this booklet). And we've conducted research and projects linking ICTs with the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development. Most importantly, the Youth Caucus has continued the effort to take WSIS local – into our countries and communities. To make WSIS real. To bring a global policy process to the level where it can inspire individuals to create change, using technology. But we made some changes to our approach. In Phase 1, the National WSIS Youth Campaigns reached around 70,000 young people – but most of these youth were city-dwellers, young people in urban areas who often had relatively good access to the Internet, at least through Internet cafes. In Phase 2, most of our campaigns have very specifically targeted rural young people, beyond the reaches of broadband internet, mobile telephones and even sometimes electricity. The campaigns have included road-shows, stalls in village markets, community forums, train-the-trainers meetings, and radio programming, as well as national events, school visits, and engagement with high-level policy makers. They've emphasized 'old technologies' as well as 'new technologies'.

It's not been easy. If anything, these campaigns exposed the huge challenge that exists for all stakeholders in ICT policy making – to base programs and projects in people's reality on the ground – people who sometimes sees little promise in ICTs to improve their lives, or have expectations that are difficult to meet. But the Campaigns have demonstrated yet again the power of young people to act as community advocates, creating networks, organizing projects, and creating pressure for others to join their action. The decentralized organizing model for the Campaigns has proven itself to be solid.

The end of the WSIS process by no means end of the Youth Caucus. Our members' regular projects – such as radio programs, online communities, e-learning initiatives, and tele-centres - have been greatly enhanced through the global and regional networks forged. The concrete recognition of young people in the Geneva Summit declaration has given us strength and the support of many stakeholders. This is just the beginning. We hope you'll join us as we continue to 'turn words to action'!

Titilayo Akinsmani, Global Facilitator (Nigeria/South Africa)
Robert Sagun
(The Philippines)

ACTIVITIES

PHASE 1

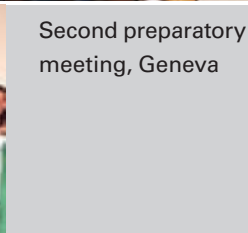|			
National activities were organized in 21 countries world-wide engaging more than 70,000 young people.	Workshop in Turkey	National Youth Forum on WSIS, Freetown	National Campaign Event in India
Hundreds of youth ICT leaders participated in the WSIS preparatory process.	European Regional Meeting in Africa	Second preparatory meeting, Geneva	Third preparatory meeting, Geneva
Online and physical meetings provided a platform for peer-skills share.	Young women leaders in ICTs workshop, Cairo	Talk-to-Her: An e-consultation with young women in ICTs	Young Asian Doers Meeting, Malaysia
The Geneva Summit provided a powerful platform for networking and celebration.	Speaking in the plenary	The Youth Hub space	Youth Awards Ceremony
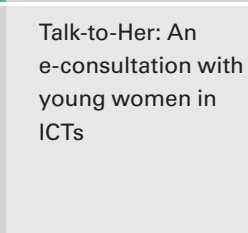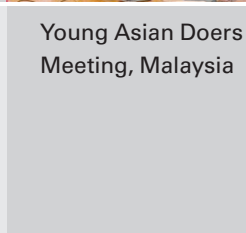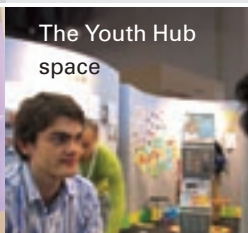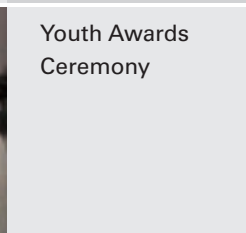
PHASE 2

Youth campaigns took WSIS into rural communities, through events and workshops.	A forum in Argentina	Youth road-show in Nigeria	Training event in Ghana
	A workshop in Ukraine		
Young people were present in numbers at key Prepcoms – and several major forums focused on youth issues.	Youth was a special focus of the NEPAD meeting in Accra	The UN ICT Taskforce Global Forum on Education	Making an inter-vention at the 3rd preparatory meeting
	Participating in the Latin American Regional Meeting		
Special projects were launched to showcase youth ICT initiatives.	A 55 minute documentary on the Youth Caucus	GKP Youth and ICT Awards	World Summit Awards
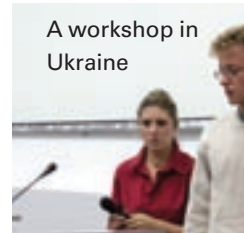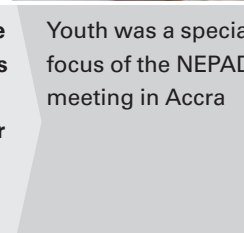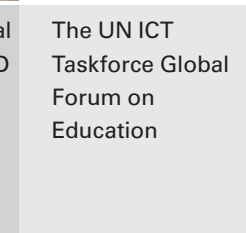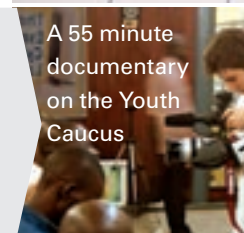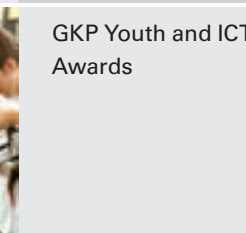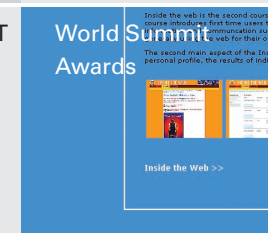
TAKING WSIS LOCAL

With the support of the Centre for Technical Assistance in ACP Countries, and the Government of Canada, the Youth Caucus organized two rounds of grassroots mobilization activities around Information Society issues. Each campaign was coordinated by group of young ICT leaders.

By the numbers

- 16 countries, five continents
- More than 20,000 youth engaged in events and workshops
- Hundreds of youth trained as ICT trainers
- 20 radio programs reaching hundreds of thousands of listeners
- Approximately 90,000 brochures and newsletters
- A video conference connecting different countries
- Nearly 1000 submissions to essay and art contests
- Thousands of youth organizations reached
- Many high level policy makers engaged
- More than 60 reports in the media

• Canada
• Russia
• Ukraine
• Jordan
• Egypt
• India
• Philippines
• Haiti
• Mali
• Nigeria
• Sierra Leone
• Ghana
• Uganda
• Malawi
• Argentina
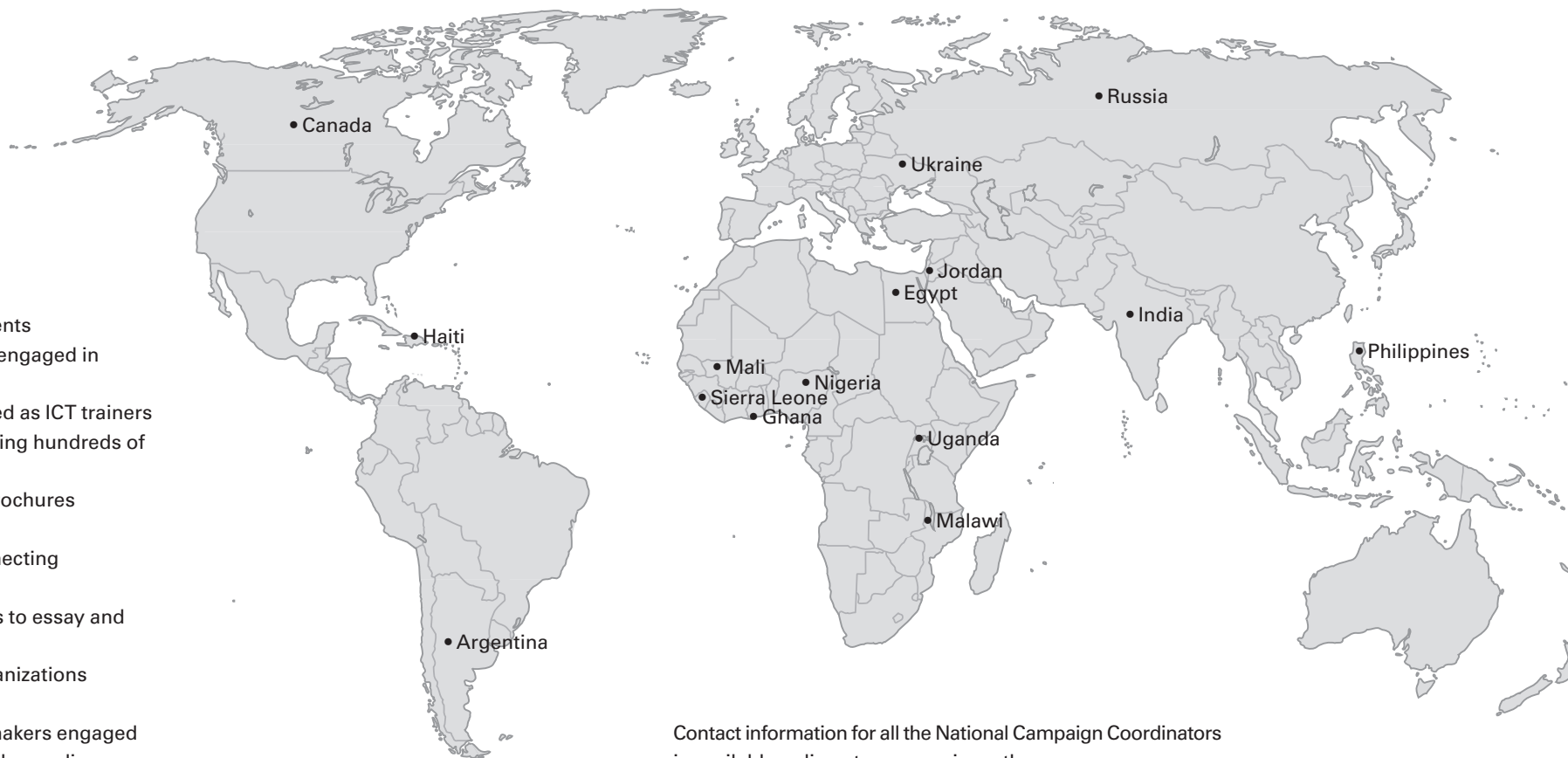
Contact information for all the National Campaign Coordinators is available online at: www.wsisyouth.org

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Realize the potential of young people. Young people are some of the most active creators and consumers of information and communications technologies. Those under 25 make up more than 50% of the global population. Tapping into young people's expertise, innovation and enthusiasm should be considered an essential component of any national ICT strategy – from development to delivery.

2. Create affordable and reliable access to technology. While new technologies have the benefit to create new opportunities, the reality is that the vast majority of the world's populations – especially in rural areas - have limited access to radio and print media, let alone computers and the Internet. Different stakeholders in local communities, especially youth, need to work with governments to promote access through tele-centers, community media programs, and educational institutions. To reach this end, governments and private business must support the Digital Solidarity Fund.

3. Promote youth employment and entrepreneurship. Unemployment rates amongst young people are consistently higher than that of the general population. ICTs provide new opportunities for job creation – youth themselves are providing entrepreneurial leadership in ICT industries, creating jobs for themselves, and for others. Youth need support for their enterprise – a 'level playing field' and access to financing and infrastructure. Further, government regulations must be created that ensure safety, equity, and job security in the workplace.

4. Integrate technology into education in a meaningful way. Technology must be mainstreamed, and not merely incorporated, into school curricula. IT must become an integral part of all disciplines, from the humanities to the sciences, and not be confined to computer science classes, as is too often the case. Students and not only teachers can be a gateway to the information society. In school youth are often overlooked as a source of technological expertise. Youth should be encouraged to share their ICT knowledge through peer-to-peer learning, and contribute to the creation of meaningful curricula.

5. Enhance cyber-safety and security Stability and reliability are fundamental principles to the evolution of the Internet. Spam wastes Internet bandwidth, especially for developing countries where inter-connection costs are very high. E-commerce is experiencing limited growth due to increasing incidence of hacking and database infiltration. Youth must be trained to stay safe online and supported to help others too.

6. Support rich, locally relevant content. Promoting the development of expression online, and ensuring it remains free and accessible must be one of our key goals. An 'information society' must include a public space for the free exchange of information and ideas. Providing and encouraging creation of local content in local languages on the Internet, such as helping citizens interact with government services, access local news, and experience their own culture is vital to ensure the information society becomes relevant to young people's day-to-day lives.

7. Advance human rights and democratic governance: Respect for civil liberties and eliminating abuse and exploitation brought about by advanced technologies must be the foundation of a human-faced society of the wired future. Young people, through ICTs, are mobilizing networks and support that are vital to the spread of democracy and defense of social justice.

8. Continue to engage youth in ICT policy making. Through global engagement, as well as the Rural and National campaigns, in both 2003 and 2005, young people have demonstrated their potential as powerful contributors to the development and implementation of national ICT strategies. The momentum must be harnessed. Not only must governments incorporate young people into their decision-making processes, but they must prioritize investments in young volunteers, as well as social and business entrepreneurs.

ARGENTINA

In June 2, TakingITGlobal and Vientos del Sur Association jointly ran an Open Forum on Youth and Information Society in Buenos Aires city, as a preparative young meeting to the Latin America and the Caribbean WSIS Regional Conference, Rio de Janeiro 2005. With the sponsorship of the Latin American Parliament, around young people discussed the WSIS process, the impact of ICTs in their daily lives and the digital divide.

A second Open Forum was held October 8 in Corrientes' Province in partnership with Fundación Centro Integral de Apoyo Educativo (CIAE), gathering 100 young people from 5 provinces of the Northeast of Argentina in Corrientes' Province.

Some of the areas discussed at these events included the need
• For Digital divide programs to focus on empowerment rather than simply treating participants as clients or students.
• To go beyond seeing the 'Information Society' as just an aspect of consumerism – encouraging meaningful and socially relevant use of computers, cell phones and the media.
• To address the huge internal digital divide that exists in Argentina between a few privileged cities saturated with Internet cafes, and the rest of the population

disconnected as if in the 19th century.
• To remember that technology does not just create employment – it also creates change that requires a special focus on adaptation and retraining.

The campaign has created an e-community & resources' centre linking interested young people, organizations and meaningful documents on ICT.

Upcoming activities include more Open Forums in Buenos Aires and other provinces, an essays contest, and a high level seminar at the beginning of November.

The Campaign in Argentina is part of the WSIS Youth Caucus, is headed by TakingITGlobal, with the national support of the Vientos del Sur Association. Local partners includes the Fundación CIAE, Fundación FES, FLACSO' Youth Program, Fundación Estudios y Proyectos; Fundación Proyectar, Fundación Argentina a las Naciones Camino a la Verdad, and others.

CAMEROON

To raise awareness of the National Campaign in Cameroon, posters were stuck in districts across the large cities of Yaoundé, Douala, Bafoussam, Ebolowa, Sangmélima, Mbalmayo. Official statements were provided to several radio networks and read out on air. And to reach into rural communities, the national campaign coordinators visited local community leaders and youth associations in villages such as Mbalmayo, Mfou, Minlaba, Metet, Madoumba, Mbeng, and Tayap – introducing them to Information Society issues and distributing materials.

On the 5th of October, an Open Day on the WSIS was held for youth organizations at the office of the Federation of Rural Organizations for the Cameroon Economy (FORCE). 15 youth groups shared their activities in practical development fields. One goal of the event was to show how ICTs could support and be applied to a range of more traditional development activities. Some of the many partners in this event included the Institut Africain d'Information, the Ministry of Youth, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and the National Employment Fund. Two days later, FORCE also provided a venue for a round-table with representatives of youth organizations to discuss ICTs as a medium for rural development.

Then on October 13th, to explore the particular needs of young women, the Campaign organized a two hour debate at the Women and Family Promotion Center of Mbalmayo. Areas of discussion included the strong employment opportunities for young women managing call boxes (public mobile phones), the need to improve the accessibility of Internet cafes to young women, and the importance of radio in reaching those without telephony or the Internet.

To build public recognition, the Campaign organized a "Walk for the Construction of a Right and Equitable Information Society". Young volunteers (especially leaders of youth associations) walked through the districts of Cameroon's capitol, Yaoundé. During the walk, the program of the various activities of the campaign, the leaflets of the organizations partners were distributed.

The Campaign also organized a training event on ICTs for 30 youth leaders at the ASSOAL Multimedia Centre, and launched a national contest for youth on art and literature in relation to the WSIS themes. Overall, it received coverage in more than 20 media stories in the local press.

CANADA

In preparation for the World Summit on the Information Society, TakingITGlobal coordinated a national Canadian Campaign on the Information Society, with the purpose to gather a youth voice and consensus on the issues surrounding ICTs that affect Canadian youth the most. Youth were able to attend the Open Forum events that were held in major cities across the country including Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Vaughan and Halifax in partnership with local groups.

Key issues discussed included employment, development, and Intellectual Property Rights, and the role of young people as contributors to ICT policy-making. A key theme emerging was the need to ensure young people were not just consumers of ICTs, but also as contributors towards their development, innovation, and application. Participants highlighted the importance of using ICTs as a platform for expression of ideas, thoughts and cultures.

Examples were artists who are now recording and producing music with others around the world using ICTs, and online communities that connect people globally – providing a powerful space for expression for those marginalized from public debate. Lastly, there was recognition of ICTs as being a valuable tool for coordinating social action and mobilization, which many youth are involved in.

Partners for the National Campaigns include:

• Centre for Social Innovation (Toronto)
• City of Vaughan Youth Cabinet (Vaughan)
• Alternatives (Montreal)
• Child and Youth Friendly Ottawa (Ottawa)
• HeartWood (Halifax)
• City of Vancouver Youth Outreach Team
• Vancouver Community Network (Vancouver)

EGYPT

The National Youth Campaign in Egypt has enjoyed an ongoing dialogue with policy-makers since 2003. This year, as the campaign re-built momentum towards the Tunis Summit, many of its members have been invited to participate and present at events such as the GKP Annual Meeting, the Cairo Arab Economic Forum, as well as participating in the Government's delegation to the preparatory process.

In the lead-up to Tunis, three Open Forums were organized in Alexandria, Damieta, and El Menia Governorates engaging more than 150 young people. In addition, the Campaign has announced a Creative Competition, promoting the artistic expression of youth around the theme of "Youth leadership in Development". The pieces selected will blend diverse media including photography, installations, paintings, cartoons, poetry, creative stories and digital art.

In October, a day-long National WSIS Youth Forum was held in Cairo, in partnership with the Egypt ICT Trust Fund, with about 100 young representatives from across the country. The event was a platform to bring together youth to discuss post-Tunis plans and launch a network to sustain activities.

As this publication goes to press, the Campaign is organizing a video conference to link with young people in Jordan and Iran - and an event in Alexandria on 10th of November to close the 2005 Campaign. The campaign has been highlighted in the media, including a series of radio interview an articles, as well as the newsletters of youth organizations.

Partners of the Campaign included:

• Egypt ICT Trust Fund
• Sustainable Development Association
• NGO Service Center for Population and Development
• TakingITGlobal
• Ministry of communications and information technology

GHANA

The Ghana campaign reach-ed several thousand young people directly, and many times this number through huge exposure in local, rural and national media.

First, the campaign went to rural communities in a variety of regions. In the Northern Region, 325 students from 14 schools came together to learn about information society issues and receive basic practical training –in Tamale, the group was even larger – 650 students!

After evaluating the initial events, the event in Brong Ahafo was lengthened into a 3-day Community Youth ICT Camp, with more than 200 participants. For most of the participants, the camp presented their very first exposure to computers. The unique nature of the event also attracted a significant number of policy makers in the region, including the Deputy Regional Minister.

40 young representatives from all major regions then came to the nation's capitol, Accra,

for a 'Training for Trainers' workshop held at the APTECH Computer Education centre. These trainees now serve as "ICT Ambassadors" in their Schools and Communities. In addition to the young trainers, several teachers and parents from various communities were invited to participate to encourage greater community acceptance of ICT activities. The Campaign received a great amount of media attention - including stories on the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, and many radio networks. The highlights of the outreach program were broadcast on the National Television (GTV) evening news and also published in the Daily Graphic. In addition members of the Campaign team were invited onto programs such as the Big Breakfast Show on Ghana Television (GTV), Women's World on Sunny FM, Morning Show on Uniq FM, and the 12 noon News on the Hour on Radio Gold.

Discussion Highlights

- The role of ICTs to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS
- The importance of training teachers in ICT skills
- Launch of new national network of ICT Youth Clubs

Co-sponsors in Ghana
Ministry of Communications, Science Education Unit (Ghana Education Service), APTECH Computer Education, Computer Link (Radio Univers), TechGov, PRIME Resources

Contact: Leopold L.L. Armah
armahleo@yahoo.co.uk

HAITI

In Haiti, the rural youth campaign was launched in Jacmel in the Southeast of the island with more than 600 participants to discuss Information Society issues in Haiti. More than 50 youth associations were represented, as well as a range of senior officials from government ministries and international organizations. During the event, thirty selected young people from the ten departments of the country received training in sustainable development issues, technology and web site creation.

The event also provided an opportunity to launch several exciting projects in Haiti. UNDP launched initiatives to provide access to the internet in the local community. Students at

the Superior School of Information Technology of Haiti (ESIH) launched voice-based software they had developed to enable illiterate people to use information technology. Mr. Jean Jaunasse Élisé, the Secretary of State for Telecommunication announced the establishment of a National Commission on ICTs.

Most importantly, the thirty selected 'trainers' and representatives of many organizations returned to their different localities to transmit further information on Information Society. They took with them 75,000 'sensitization' brochures outlining key ICT issues, which were distributed through schools, universities, clubs and local associations. The Campaign also received significant media coverage in Haiti.

JORDAN

Running a National Youth Campaign in Jordan seemed only natural when reading recent statistics that youth (under the age of 30) in Jordan account for over 70% of the country's population, and the country is seen as a pilot in the ICT sector in the MENA region.

Two Open Forums have been organized in the capital city, Amman, engaging more than 60 youth from the North and South of the country. At these events, Young Jordanian participants were adamant about overcoming all political, social, and economic obstacles to youth participation. The public needs to view youth as an investment or an opportunity, rather than a risk or a liability. Implementing the National Jordan Youth Strategy (which was launched earlier this year), as well as educating and raising awareness are crucial for this change in mindset. Meanwhile, technology has helped strengthen the youth movement, by allowing Jordanians to share and discuss their daily struggles. It has also helped foster a positive image of the country to foreigners, allowing for cross-cultural communication and the bridging of the digital divide.

The second Open Forum is planned for early November and involves a video conferencing session amongst youth in Jordan, Egypt, and Iran, to seek how youth in various countries in the MENA region see their involvement in the new information age.

Along those lines, a Global Gallery Contest has been launched on the TakingITGlobal site that seeks to promote the artistic expression of youth in Jordan, as well as in the MENA Region, around the theme of "Youth. Leadership. Development" – how youth view leadership, challenges youth are facing and how they feel they can overcome them, as well as what they see can be inclusive, ICT-based solutions. The submissions blend diverse media including photography, installations, paintings, cartoons, and digital art. The contest is open to all members of partner organizations from all WSIS National Youth Campaigns in the MENA region, and carries out till the end of November.

As a final event, a Roundtables Event is taking place on the 7th of November in Amman,

focusing on various ICT-related issues, with key stakeholders from all sectors of society as speakers. The two topics of discussion are:
* Capacity-Building: Engaging Youth through ICT
* ICTs and Economic Growth: Is there a role for youth?

The Campaign is being featured in various local newspapers as well as on Radio Jordan.

One of the purposes of the Campaign was to provide Jordanian youth the opportunity to have a voice in November, at the WSIS Phase II in Tunis, a with support from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, three young Jordanians have been selected to attend.

The campaign in Jordan is run in partnership by TakingITGlobal and the National Forum for Youth & Culture: Jordan Youth

KENYA

In Kenya, the Rural Youth Campaign's activities were organized into two tracks- first, a policy track aimed at increasing awareness and engaging young people in Information Society issues – and second, support for concrete projects using ICTs for development.

On the Policy side, activities included:

- Two Open Forums organized at Youth Information Centres in two rural communities – the first focusing on the distinct needs of urban, slum and rural dwellers, and the second focusing specifically on the needs of young women.
- An E-conference on Youth and ICTs in Kenya, held in August, bringing together more than 100 young Kenyan leaders.
- The first National Kenya Youth and ICT Convention, held at the YMCA in Nairobi in August, bringing together youth from across the country. The event was launched by Ms. Alice Munyua, Communications Commissioner of Kenya and concluded with the drafting of the Kenya Youth Declaration on Implementation of the National ICT Policy. Discussions focused on issues of gender, employment, entrepreneurship, the environment, role of media, local content and use of voice over IP.

- Ongoing engagement with national policy processes including organizing youth delegations to meetings related to the National ICT Policy, NEPAD, and inclusion in the government's WSIS Taskforce.

On the Projects side, activities included:

- A 12-part radio series called 'The Break' produced by Antony Wafula and broadcast on campaign partner Radio Waumini 88.5, exploring the role of rural youth in the Information Society, through stories of good practices in different regions.
- The creation of a national database of existing ICT4D projects catering for rural youth, and analysis of success factors.
- The launch as part of the Campaign, by Oneworld, of a Free SMS News Service for the deaf providing information on HIV/AIDs, events of interest, and employment opportunities.
- A showcase of youth ICT initiatives at the at the National Youth ICT Convention and MadeinKeyna.org

MALAWI

The Rural Youth Campaign in Malawi came at a critical stage, just as Malawi was completing development of an ICT and Rural Telecommunications policy. Through the Campaign, young people were able to be actively involved in the policy formulation process, and have their views incorporated. A key outcome is the inclusion of a "Youth Pillar" in the new ICT policy.

The Campaign developed a range of promotional materials distributed to youth and ICT leaders, including t-shirts, posters and brochures. The Campaign launched with two Special Sessions for journalists and young people in Mzuzu (in the North) and Lilongwe (in the Central Region). This effort paid dividends – not only did the journalists engage in information society issues, reporting the lack of access to technology in regions, as well as the WSIS process – but the young people were informed, and seen to take a proactive part, in building a more inclusive society. In particular, as a result, the Nation Newspapers Limited for the first time launched an ICT supplement including contributions from a broad range of youth.

The campaign then organized a Symposium for all stakeholders in the Capital to solicit support for youth-led ICT projects in rural Malawi. At the symposium, young people displayed various eye-catching exhibitions on their work. The response from the donor partners was overwhelming and a few organizations received pledges of support on the spot. Finally, the Campaign organized an exhibit on the side of the Malawi National Youth Council Regional Council on the value and importance of ICTs, with the support of the Ministry of Information.

Partners:

- MACRA
- NICO Technologies

NIGERIA

Building upon the huge success of work in 2003, the Nigerian campaign is organizing activities across rural areas in six states of Nigeria - Katsina State, Kano State, Enugu State, Lagos State, Anambra and Oyo.

To launch the Campaign, a National ICT Empowerment Conference was held in the Northern Region in late June. The conference introduced over 300 participants to the WSIS, the campaign, and the opportunities presented by youth based ICT initiatives. They also discussed youth empowerment in Job Creation and Employment, Free and Open Source Software and the Telecommunications. A host of other dignitaries attended including an advisor to the State Governor and the Territorial Manager of Nigeria Telecommunication Limited. On the final day of the event, 10 youth went to Mashi village and setup an ICT exhibit and training program in the open square of the busy market. Many of the older teenagers were also interviewed on audio/video on their perspectives on the use of ICTs in their every day life.

The campaign then moved to Enugu Town, including a forum and visits to local ICT4D project sites. In nearby Ugawaji village, ICTs were taught to local youth in both English and Ibo. The villagers were particularly excited by digital photography. Despite a heavy downpour, many local community stakeholders also attended the workshop. A key outcome was an agreement by two of the Campaign partnering organizations, Paradigm Initiative Nigeria and Young Initiators Nigeria to open a multimedia centre in the village.

In Wesere village in Lagos state, 145 young professionals, from village leaders to medical doctors came to learn about the implications of technology on their work. This event was organized in partnership with the National Youth Service Corps and the Nigerian Christian Conference of Medial and Dental Students. In addition the youth developed a series of policy recommendations which will be included in the final Nigeria Youth Policy Declaration on the Information Society

PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines, the Campaign co-sponsored a nine-part weekly radio series called "Youth Voices on Air: Walking the Talk on the MDGs". The program aims to highlight youth work to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, particularly through the use of information and communications technologies. Each program involved a crew of 15 and found at least 500,000 weekly listeners on a major network. In addition, a magazine reporting the results of the radio program is planned for distribution in late 2005.

Two other activities of the campaign are:

• An arts exhibit showcasing the work of young artists on development issues, organized in partnership with Young Artists Fellowship for the Environment and the United Nations Volunteers. The Global Campaign Against Poverty is adding a rich collection of photos illustrating poverty and hunger, and gender equality. Hundreds of people - mostly youth from outside the capitol - are expected to attend the launch on October 26th.
• A public/media briefing on WSIS and the launching of GKP's Youth Social Enterprise Initiative, hosted by the National Youth Commission, with around 30 young people and special guests including the Secretary of the Commission on ICTs on October 28th

Thousands of 'Youth @ WSIS' flyers have been printed for distribution through campaign events.

To ensure the momentum developed through both phases of the WSIS continues, the campaign plans to organize a 3-day National Youth and ICT Conference in 2006, as part of a broader MDG youth campaign.

RUSSIA

The campaign launched with a youth essay competition, with the goal of showcasing "how youth in Russia see their digital future and find themselves in their information present". Many entries were received, and the contest winners will be announced November 1st, receiving prizes from TakingITGlobal and the contest partners Microsoft Russia an Intel Russia.

A special newsletter was created to introduce Russian youth to Information Society issues. The newsletter was distributed in both digital and printed format to hundreds of schools, youth organizations and NGOs in Russia.

Three Open Forums have been organized by the Campaign. The first was in Tambov, at the Tambov State University. The participants came from both Tambov and smaller surrounding towns and villages. In the group discussion that followed presentations, there was agreement that much depends on the 'inert character of Russian people', and that major effort needs to be put towards educating active citizens who are ready to produce change. At the same time, many participants noted that the government had a major role to play - making sure youth programs were truly youth directed and providing tax incentives for businesses wanting to put money into youth programs.

The second forum, held at Smolensk, focused on demonstrating the potential of technology, providing concrete ways for youth to get involved, and creating networks. The third forum, aimed at high-school students, is to be held in Vladimir shortly after this publication goes to press. It will tackle the issue of Online Security and Cyber-safety - how to protect not only our computers, but also ourselves when venturing online. Following the forum, participants will make an exhibit in their own schools on the subject.

Finally a Special Forum will be held on the Tuesday after the Tunis Summit, in Moscow on the side of a broader event called "Youth and the Future Russia". About 100 participants from youth NGOs and educational institutions from most regions of the country will learn about the results of the campaign, develop a cohesive set of recommendations for local and national policy makers, and be empowered to act as Campaign ambassadors once they return to their communities.

By October 12, the campaign's activities had already been covered by nearly 40 online publications, and received broad coverage through radio interviews, newspaper articles and coverage in youth media.

Campaign partners:

- Department of Information Technologies and Telecommunications, Smolensk Region Government
- Department of Education, Science and Youth Policy, Smolensk region Government
- Smolensk City Youth Parliament
- Smolensk State Nature Reservation
- Smolensk University of Arts
- Department of Education, Vladimir City Government
- Moscow City Government
- Commission on Youth and Sport, Federation Council, The Parliament of Russian Federation
- Ministry of Education and Science of Russian Federation

SIERRA LEONE

The Sierra Leone Rural Youth Campaign launched with a 3-day Youth Forum in the Waterloo/Koya Rural District, with youth leaders drawn from different local organizations. Only two of young people had even basic computer literacy, so much discussion focused not only how computers and the Internet could be used to support their activities, but how they might improve access to technology in the region. Concrete progress was made when two special guests, the Chairman of the Western Area Rural Council, and the local Member of Parliament, offered to donate an office space to establish a Community Youth Information Centre, as well as two computers. Discussion also explored the fundamental issue of access to electricity – as a practical the local youth are now exploring obtaining a wind or solar energy source to power the proposed Centre.

After this early successful Forum, there was strong demand to replicate the event in many other rural communities. The Campaign had the capacity to implement two further events, first at Benguema village, and the second at MacDonald village. The McDonald village event was extended to three days, and due to the current intensive farming activities, held largely over a weekend so a maximum number of local youth could attend. McDonald village is outside even mobile phone coverage, so the event focused on a broad range of ICT issues and concerns, ranging from improving telecommunications and electricity, to radio and computers.

Finally the Campaign organized a two-week training for ten rural youth leaders from different regions in computer basics at the Access Africa Technology Enrichment Program in the capitol, Freetown.

UGANDA

The National Campaign in Uganda, a partnership between the UN Association of Uganda and the Uganda Land Alliance, organized a National Youth Forum in Mbale District. More than 100 participants discussed issues such as overcoming language barriers, the role of the private sector in empowering younger ICT entrepreneurs, and the role of grassroots youth groups to act as information intermediaries, further distributing information accessed through ICTs. The event also attracted two participants from headquarters of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, who are supporting the Campaign's work.

UKRAINE

While Ukraine came late to the WSIS Youth Caucus, the local Campaign showed what is possible to organize in two short months! The Campaign's primary organizer, the Information Society Foundation of Ukraine, sought wide collaboration from young people, public organizations and the corporate sector.

The first Open Forum of the Campaign was organized in the capitol, Kiev, appropriately at the conference hall of a supermarket for digital devices known as 'The City of Modern Electronics'. 80 young participants, leaders of youth organizations and universities, and 20 representatives of the media and business attended the event. Through special presentations and break-out discussion, the event explored issues including online entertainment, online safety, the use and development of open source software, and website promotion. In the break, participants enjoyed discussing- and debating – representatives from leading IT companies such as Microsoft and UKRTELECOM. Participants were particularly concerned about the lack of sufficient ICT equipment in Ukrainian universities and discussed the need to organize young people around the issue, as the IT literate part of the population.

Next, on this theme, the Campaign launched a national essay contest entitled 'The role of youth in the development of the Information Society in Ukraine' through high schools, universities and youth groups. A series of materials and interactive questionnaires were developed and widely distributed to promote the contest as well as find out new facts, and creative ideas to feed into policy-making processes.

A second Open Forum was held in Nikolaev on the 8th of October, in the hall of the College of Press and Television, with 50 young participants. Powerpoints and short videos were used to provoke a wide-ranging and passionate discussion. One of the key interests of the participants was media bias and manipulation, and the positive potential of the Internet to create a more open space for information exchange – especially coming after the 2004 Presidential elections.

The campaign is continuing, and has already received significant media attention in newspapers and websites, and on radio and TV.

Partners in Ukraine: FRI (Foundation of the regional initiatives), Independent Media Center , Microsoft, DA.NET (Internet Agency), City.com, Ukrainian Educational Center of Reforms

WORLD SUMMIT YOUTH AWARD

SHOWCASING THE WORLD'S BEST IN YOUTH-DRIVEN E-CONTENT AND CREATIVITY

From online music communities to interactive gaming platforms to e-tourism flash maps, e-learning applications and HIV/AIDS resources, the World Summit Youth Award (WSYA) has witnessed the incredible richness and diversity of e-content created by youth, for youth. We've seen comics for civic education in Namibia, 'rewiring' youth media in Australia, a digital design school for the slum youth of Kenya, an online community of young social entrepreneurs in Croatia, biotechnology resources in Nigeria, AIDS patent wars from the USA and shared electronica music in Belgium.

Organized within the framework of the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), WSYA is an international awards competition which aims to give mainstream support and recognition to online youth-led projects. From over 300 applicants hailing from 65 countries, the top three projects in each WSYA category – Development, Creativity & Culture and Community Engagement – will take centre stage in Tunis for Phase II of the WSIS. Projects were evaluated in two rounds by an international jury of 15 young experts in the fields of youth engagement, new media and social entrepreneurship.

The WSYA is co-organized by the World Summit Award (www.wsis-award.org) and the WSIS Youth Caucus (www.wsisyouth.org), in partnership with TakingITGlobal (www.takingitglobal.org). It is held under the patronage of Viviane Reding, Member of the European Commission responsible for Information Society and Media, and Franz Morak, State Secretary for the Arts and Media, Federal Chancellery, Republic of Austria.

For more information on all finalists visit:

WWW.YOUTHAWARD.ORG

winner 1

Winner April 2004 ThinkQuest
Winner : Doors to Diplomacy 2005

PATENT WARS ON AIDS DRUGS
Ammu Irivinti, 17,
United States of America

Public Health or Corporate Wealth?

The battle in the field of medical drug research and development is weaponless, yet affects countless. Should preference be given to the world's pharmaceutical giants who wield their monopoly as incentives to produce more, or should countries with high rates of fatal illnesses be allowed to override patent laws in order to save lives? The global pharmaceutical industry insists that patents provide incentive to research and produce more drugs. However, drugs produced by these groups are costly. For people in poorer countries to access medications, they must either produce generic drugs or import such drugs from elsewhere. Both options leave them at the mercy of the large pharmaceuticals, who earnestly charge these nations with patent infringement.

Patent Wars on AIDS Drugs is coordinated by a dynamic international team of five, 14-17 year old students hailing from the USA, India, UK, Netherlands and Australia. Communicating via instant messaging, e-mail, Internet telephony (Voice over IP), and a forum, they have created an invaluable, bilingual (English and Spanish) knowledge-sharing resource around the fight for more accessible, affordable HIV/AIDS drugs. With flash intros, facts, articles, news, surveys, interactive games, stories and galleries, this is a remarkable one-stop shop for critical information on today's greatest global challenge.

WWW.PATENTBATTLES.COM

BIOTECHNOLOGY: THE FOOD SOLUTION

runner-up 2

Samuel Odofin, 17,
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Biotechnology and the UN Millennium Development Goals

How can new developments in biotechnology tackle the issues of poverty and starvation in Africa? Much has been made recently in the global campaign to Make Poverty History and eradicate extreme poverty. But beyond the glamour of rock stars and MTV, grassroots NGOs in Africa are working in their local communities to achieve a more equitable and sustainable development. "Biotechnology: The Food Solution" is a Nigerian web resource designed to raise awareness on the use of agricultural biotechnology in combating food shortages and insecurity in Africa. It focuses on youth and technology as vehicles for publicizing and deepening the debate through an innovative online platform. With e-learning tools, flash games, videos, animations, a media gallery, articles (from academic sources and members themselves) and an accessible explanation of the science behind biotechnology, this website reflects the passion of its 17-year old creator, Samuel Odofin. The site is focused mainly on students and farmers around the first UN Millennium Development Goal, which aims to (by the year 2015):

• Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than one U.S. dollar a day
• Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

WWW.ODOFIN.COM

YOUTH.HR

**third place** 3

Ivanovic Pasko, 24,
Republic of Croatia
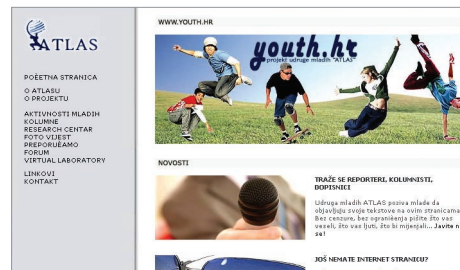
Connecting the Youth of Croatia to the World

A few years ago, three Croatian students put their heads together on the challenges facing their country's youth and discovered a disconnected set of online resources and local NGOs lacking the capacity to create their own websites. As a result of numerous conferences held on youth participation in decision-making processes, the need for a comprehensive, Croatia-wide resource centre for youth organizations emerged. Now, Croatian youth seeking grants, event information, online promotion, partnerships, knowledge-sharing and an online forum have an open, virtual space to do so. Youth.HR not only integrates existing web resources, it also offers web design services to youth organizations free of charge.

The goals of Youth.HR are to improve information flow among youth organizations, to increase the visibility of these organizations in Croatia and to gather and publish specific information on issues facing youth today. Of particular interest is the virtual wiki laboratory – a shared online space to learn the skills of project management, proposal writing and communications that will enable young minds to transform a cool idea into reality. E-mentoring, information resources and skill-sharing play a key role in a space that reflects the new collaborative paradigm of the Internet. The creative minds behind Youth. HR are the Atlas Youth Organization, a multi-disciplinary team of students under 25 currently studying IT, Law and Engineering in Croatia.

WWW.YOUTH.HR

winner 1
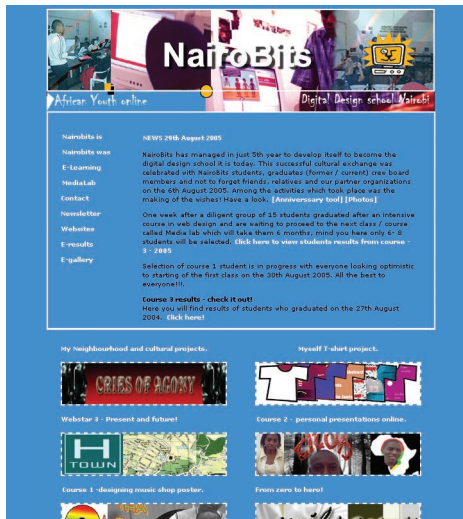
NAIROBITS DIGITAL DESIGN SCHOOL
Wilson Masaka Magambo, 22,
Republic of Kenya

From the Slums of Nairobi to the Cutting Edge of Digital Design

Nairobits is an inspiring example of youth creating digital opportunity as a vehicle out of unemployment and poverty. Formed in January 2000 by a team of young multi-media educators, Nairobits is a non-profit organisation that provides creative ICT skills to disadvantaged youth from the slums of Nairobi, Kenya. It also acts as a media channel for young African designers, a virtual space for local African content and an e-learning platform. Clients can view the portfolios of these designers with an impressive array of flash animations, interactive applications and graphic design. Young designers have gone on to design websites, business cards, posters, CD covers, advertising brochures and e-cards.

The individual stories are truly inspirational as youth from the slums of Nairobi have worked their way out of drugs, poverty and unemployment through the power of digital design. The impact is exponential as the students then teach others through workshops and mentoring across Kenya. Beyond the training itself, the Web Stars initiative has youth create websites on the theme of African culture and local content to enhance cultural and linguistic diversity in an often English-dominated environment. Nairobits is living proof of technology unleashing the potential of marginalized youth.
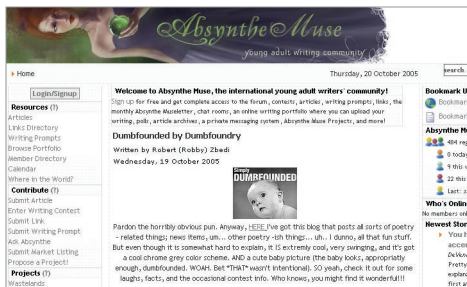
WWW.NAIROBITS.ORG

ABSYNTHE MUSE

2 runner-up

Elisabeth Wilhelm, 18,
United States of America

Inspiring an Online Community of Young Writers

The hurdles facing young writers can be great – lack of experience, lack of recognition, widespread exploitation and an industry that overlooks young talent. Absynthe Muse aims to tackle these barriers with an international community of young writers aged 13-22 who share knowledge, post their work and access resources on how to get published. Youth initiatives are the driving force behind Absynthe Muse, serving marginalized groups such as young women from rural areas who don't have access to real-world resources of writing. The community reflects a diverse group of ambitious, talented and inspired young writers, united in their love of writing and English.

Absynthe Muse is developed on an open-source platform and offers a monthly newsletter with articles, market listings, chat rooms, scholarship opportunities, live events with well-known writers and an interactive forum to post and discuss new writing. An independent section called Absynthe Muse Projects assists individual writers to develop their own websites with a subdomain name, coding/design assistance and advice on project development. From a small seed of creativity, Absynthe Muse has become one of the world's premiere writing communities for youth.

WWW.ABSYNTHEMUSE.COM

ELECTROBEL

3 third place

Laurent d'Havé, 23,
Kingdom of Belgium

Driving the Pulse of Electronica in Belgium

The Internet has revolutionized the music industry as downloading mp3s and mobile ring tones has surpassed traditional CD sales. A decentralized, open and free music environment has allowed new artists to publicize their tracks without recourse to the all-powerful record labels. Beyond simple promotion, we have also witnessed an explosion in online music communities which transform the way artists create, collaborate and communicate. Is this the face of a new, more equitable music industry?

Electrobel is a community of Belgian electronic music producers of all ages, musical styles and ethnic origins. Their common thread is a love for producing music, sharing it, and living it. This interactive web portal allows registered artists to upload their music, distribute it freely, publicize live gigs and share ideas with other DJs and music producers. Other tools such as the booking manager, personal homepages, events calendar, online forum and image galleries assist young artists to make their mark in the world of electronic music. It is a striking example of the new paradigm of online music, created by youth in a space of collaboration, innovation and cool.

WWW.ELECTROBEL.BE

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

winner 1

VIBEWIRE
Tom Dawkins, 26,
Commonwealth of Australia

'Rewiring' Youth Media in Australia

Despite the media's portrayal, young people are not angry, apathetic and disconnected with the community around them. The key challenge for today's youth is limited access and influence on media outlets, which can leave them struggling to create any positive and empowering sense of self and culture, or any real input into the issues important to them. It's not the message that is lacking; it's the media to communicate it.

Vibewire.net is a platform where 15-30 year-old writers, artists, activists and culture makers can find a voice, interact and communicate with like (and unlike) minded people. Members upload their own articles (over 3,000 now exist) for publication and comment on the work of others. Onsite message boards and blogs foster further opportunities for them to express themselves and participate in discussions about the issues and ideas which matter to them – whether these are of a global, local or personal nature. Vibewire.net is designed to be the most inclusive online forum for Australia's youth - a community where young people access resources, engage in cultural and political discourse, and empower themselves and others using technology.
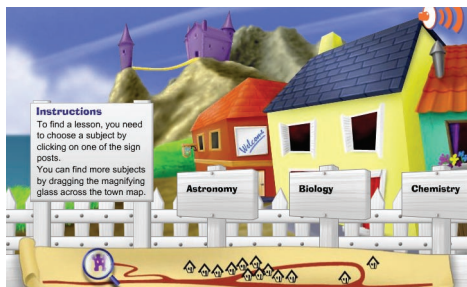

WWW.VIBEWIRE.NET

"HYPERSTAFFS"

2 runner-up

David Smith, 23, United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland

*Revolutionizing the E-learning
Experience for Children in the UK*

How can technology make education more relevant and engaging for youth? What are the e-learning applications that are transforming distance education? Hyperstaffs answers these questions with a dynamic collection of educational multimedia lessons and games that were created by Staffordshire University students studying interactive multimedia in the United Kingdom. With a creative design and the use of flash animation, Hyperstaffs has revolutionized how 5 to 13 year old children

see and do homework. It is an interactive and empowering exercise in exploration and learning amidst an alarming disconnect between children and the education system.

Each lesson was developed in conjunction with a primary or secondary school teacher in the United Kingdom and maps onto the National Curriculum in use in England and Wales. As well as working with a local teacher, the Staffordshire University students extensively tested the concept and navigation with age appropriate children. Students can choose from Biology, English, ICTs, Astronomy, Chemistry, History and Math to name just a few.

WWW.HYPERSTAFFS.INFO

"HAI TI! (LISTEN UP!)"

3 third place

Ebben Haitukalipi, 26,
Republic of Namibia

*Comics for Civic Education and Youth
Empowerment in Namibia*

The picture of ICT education in Namibia can be bleak: of the 1640 schools comprising 18,000 teachers and 700,000+ learners, 690 do not have electricity, and few have any library resources to speak of. HIV-AIDS is taking an alarming toll of educators, and teacher-absenteeism and male teenager dropout is on the rise. However, the story of Hai Ti! (Listen Up!) is truly inspirational for a generation that see ICTs as the vehicle for social change.

Hai Ti! comics is a weekly series of print and web-based comics created to empower youth, democratize civic education and develop ICT skills of the Namibian educators. The project team is now adapting these comics for Africa-wide educational television and radio broadcasting in languages such as Kiswahili, French, Portuguese and Arabic. Hai Ti! is a project of SchoolNet Namibia's ICT development programme which uses Open Source Software and Creative Commons licensed content. It reflects SchoolNet Africa's goal of raise awareness at the state and industry level towards a more direct responsibility of ICT development in disadvantaged schools.

WWW.SCHOOLNET.NA/HAITI/

RANA GULZER, 30

Amal
Pakistan

Youth Empowerment Skills

http://amal-hdn.org

The Pakistani youth, specifically those of the poorer strata of society, lack education, life skills and are vulnerable to sexual exploitation. These adolescents are lacking an knowledge of reproductive health such as puberty, family planning, STD's and Human Rights. AMAL, based in Pakistan, provides an integrated capacity building program to empower young people, especially women, by enhancing their capabilities for becoming agents of social transformation. Rana Gulzer, the Project Manager of AMAL, and the Human Development Network Balochistan are piloting Youth Empowerment Skills! (YES!), a youth oriented project, for youth. YES! focuses on street youth because of their invisibility, vulnerability and deprivation from basic health and educational facilities. Since 2003, YES! has been successful in providing life skills and non formal education to 4126 young people, including 3850 boys and 276 girls. More than 300 children have also received formal education as a result of their participation. Through the capacity building received at of the Drop in Centres youth are empowered to play significant roles in future endeavors at both national and inter-national levels.

RAJ RIDVAN SINGH, 22

Leadership Character Development Institute
Malaysia

Providing Education & Life skills to poor school dropouts especially girls from Rural Areas

http://www.lcdi.org

Since its incorporation in 2000, the Leadership-Character Development Institute (L-CDI) has grown into the largest non-formal NGO education program in Cambodia. Raj Ridvan Singh, the Co Founder and International Director of the organization, clearly demonstrates how youth can do astounding things and create sustainable change!
L-CDI started operating from Raj's own house in 2000 and has since grown into a Teacher Training Centre with 500 boarding students and 17 province training centers through out Cambodia. It has provided over 20,000 students with a holistic education. Through its students the program also reaches their families disseminating messages on health, environment, social responsibility and ethical behaviour, while promoting the importance of education for all. They are creating sustainable change in providing youth with a high level of English communication skills, self-discipline and job preparation skills.

MARK OKOWA, 27

Advocacy Behaviour-change and
Communication ABC
Kenya

Advocacy Behaviour-change and Communication

http://www.abckenya.org

Mark Okawa, is the Programs Coordinator for Advocacy Behavior-change and Communication (ABC) is an organization located in Kenya whose mission is to construct an Information and Communications Centre for youth. The centre for youth will develop young people's capacity through the education, empowerment and motivation to take action on local issues through the use of Internet Technologies. More specifically, ABC will utilize ICT's to address issues of Sexual Reproduction, Health and HIV/AIDS. The centre will help young people to effectively embrace the ever changing culture of ICT's.

Since May of 2005 the project has succeeded in reaching 250 youths from 20 registered and functional youth groups in the Kisimu district. Once the Information and Communication Technology Centre is constructed, imagine the difference that they will make!

MS. NILESHNI SEKAR, 29

Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises
National Development
Fiji Islands

Deaf Handmade Card Project

http://www.fijifriend.com

Working in rural and marginalized communities within Fiji, FRIENDs is an organization striving to economically empower those affected by poverty. Ms. Nileshni Sekar is the Art Coordinator of this organization and has been playing a lead role in the Deaf Handmade Card project. They are breaking the stereotype that disabled individuals are not self sustainable and significant contributors to society by targeting unemployed deaf people and providing them with sustainable livelihoods. The card making project creates an environment where they can express their creative talents and be involved in the entire process instilling them with confidence. Participants are encouraged to start up their own initiatives, such as offering a free sign language class to the public. The sales and awareness created by the FRIEND's Fiji Style TM cards and the continuing initiatives of the community group ensure the sustainability of this project.

"When I see their creativity and hard work combine with mine towards a successful product the feeling is amazing." –Ms. Nileshni Sekar

MISS AUDREY E. CODERA, 26

Philippine Youth Employment Network
Philippines

Community-based Youth Entrepreneurship Program

http://projects.takingitglobal.org/YES-Philippines

Miss Audrey Codera's role as Executive Director at The Philippine Youth Employment Network is demonstrative of her ability to promote youth as social entrepreneurs. The Philippine Youth Employment Network is a youth focused organization that is creating sustainable change focusing on alleviating poverty through community-based livelihoods within the Philippines.

The Community-Based Youth Entrepreneurship Program is an innovative project providing capacity building training on business planning, access to microfinance and business mentorship. This initiative promotes civic values, independence, responsibility and ownership. The training engages youth groups with all sectors of society in order to create awareness desire of young people to engage in business, the unified community's goal and the potential of the community. This project fosters an entrepreneurial society allowing original and resourceful development and challenging current values-at a local, national and international level.

JEAN-PAUL BAUER, 29

Operation Fikelela
South Africa

Operation Fikelela (Operation Access)

http://www.ikamvayouth.org/programmes/elit.htm

Since November 2003, Jean Paul Bauer and the Ikamva Youth and Technology Associate have been creating opportunities for young professionals at a local, grassroots level. IkamvaYouth is a highly economical and effective participatory approach combating the education crisis in South Africa. As a by-youth, for-youth volunteer-run organization they have succeeded in promoting awareness and building skills by bringing together youth from a diverse background. IkamvaYouth offers the youth of Khayelitsha a chance to empower themselves and to break free of the cycle of poverty. This project improves education, e-literacy skills, confidence and experience. Once they have proven the amount of impact that the model can have they expect its growth to be exponential. IkamvaYouth offers its learners hope and a hand-up towards realizing their potential, for themselves, their families, the community and the country!

SALAH UDDIN AHMED, 28

Xayan IT
Bangladesh

Xayan IT

http://www.xayanit.com

Salah Uddin Ahmed is the Co-Founder and Chief Software Engineer of XayanIT, a project that provides youth in Bangladesh with skills in Internet Communication Technology (ICT) and employment opportunities for youth. XayanIT believes that by creating local ICT employment opportunities top students will be encouraged to stay in Bangladesh and contribute to socio-economic development while also encouraging other youth to work in the ICT field. Their prerequisites of sustainable development are youth, education, employment and ICT's. Their assumption is that sustainable, local ICT employment for young intellectual elite will result in a snowball effect measurably impacting individuals outside of the ICT industry, creating multi-sector employment and greater ICT diffusion. XayanIT's approach empowers future leaders to be social entrepreneurs who can address social and economic inequity while creating gainful, sustainable, employment opportunities for themselves

"I want Bangladesh to be known for something other than natural disasters and poverty. I want the world to recognize the potential of my country. I believe that ICT can be the catalyst for

a better, more equitable Bangladesh. I believe that ICT development in Bangladesh will not only create employment and diffuse relevant technologies to people that need it most, but also raise the consciousness of Bangladesh to the rest of the world". –Salah Uddin Ahmed

MR. WU YANG, 21
Wiseuse
China

Household Wastewater Recycling Management

http://www.wise-use.org/ wastewatermanagement

Through delivering educational environmental lectures in a multitude of communities, Wu Yang is enlightening people of every perspective. He is committed to his organization, Wisuse, specifically to the project 'Household Wastewater Recycling Management'. He speaks compassionately about the degradation of environment and clearly explains that it requires more than consideration, it requires action. The Household Wastewater Recycling Management project aims to ease the water crisis in Beijing by applying my self-designed household water-saving pipeline system in newly developed housing complexes and to establish a first-class environmental protection corporation in China, constructing a new value of environmental protection in society.

The purpose of their work is to minimize the impact of human habitation on the limited water resources. Besides technological design and business operation, their work includes public education and government lobbying. They are dedicated to engaging youth and educating them on how to make sustainable change for the betterment of humanity. Youth are not future leaders but are leaders now!

Partners:
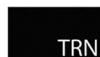
From Nigerian youth establishing telecenters, to Sri Lankan youth developing television programs, and the youth of Eastern Europe or the Philippines redefining political tactics through online activism - young people are at the forefront of transforming their societies through the information and communications revolution.

This booklet showcases the contributions of youth to the development of an Information Society

- It picks up the inspiring story of the 2005 Youth Campaigns to take consultation and action around the UN World Summit on the Information Society to local realities – and especially rural communities. Around the world, youth leaders organized workshops, created their own radio programs, held stalls in village markets, participated in video conferences, and much more!

- It also showcases the finalists in the World Summit Youth Award, a global competition to identify and celebrate youth-created e-content promoting development, culture, and civic engagement.

- And in the accompanying DVD*, find a 50 minute film following youth on four continents as they develop their local projects and participate in the Geneva phase of the Summit. Also included is an educational guide.
(*selected copies only)

A publication of:

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY
YOUTH CAUCUS

ya!
world summit youth award

Sponsored by:

CTA
partageons les connaissances au profit des communautés rurales
sharing knowledge, improving rural livelihoods

Canadä

TakingITGlobal
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PHILIPPINE RESOURCES FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SchoolNetAfrica
Towards an African Learning Network

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